

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

AKHVERDIAN et al.

Art Unit: 1652

Application No.: 10/673,786

Examiner: Ramirez

Filing Date: September 30, 2003

Attorney Ref. No.: US-115

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-
THREONINE USING BACTERIA
BELONGING TO THE GENUS
ESCHERICHIA

Confirmation No.: 7880

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 9, 2006, which set a 1-month shortened statutory period for response thereto, applicants hereby elect **Group II**, with traverse. Claim 12, and new claims 13-22 are readable thereon. Applicants respectfully assert that there would be no burden to examine Groups I and II together.


Applicant respectfully submits that the present patent application is in condition for allowance. An early indication of the allowability of the present patent application is therefore respectfully solicited.

If Examiner Ramirez believes that a telephone conference with the undersigned would expedite passage of the present patent application to issue, she is invited to call on the number below.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such

extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and the requisite fee is hereby authorized to be charged to our deposit account, 50-2821.

Respectfully submitted,



Shelly Guest Cermak
Reg. No. 39,571

Date: March 9, 2006

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